

# THE MEDICAL CHRONICLE.

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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. I.—*Valedictory Address* to the Graduates in Medicine of McGill College, on their receiving the Degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery, conferred by convocation, May, 1855. By WILLIAM SUTHERLAND, M.D., Professor of Chemistry, McGill College.

Not with reluctance most certainly, but with hesitation, have I consented and with diffidence do I undertake to address you to-day; inasmuch as I am conscious that gratulation and counsel would come with more grace and higher authority from others of your late teachers; yet I felt that I could not with propriety have refused the call of the Dean of our Faculty, and for this then, with the full knowledge of my disqualification, I take part in the ceremony of your graduation.

A ceremony at once of joyous and grave interest to the parties interested, yourselves and us; joyous to both, for you have passed a long period of study, varied and multiform, and have now received the academic degree which is the reward of its successful termination; to us, for we conceive that our tuition has conduced towards the happy result; grave on the other hand it is, for while we rejoice, we, who have for months daily watched and measured, and perhaps helped to develop your faculties—we know full well the anxieties of the life which is before you, and we cannot regard your entrance into the social struggles for position without solicitude; for in reality our interest in you does not cease with your examination and the crowning events of to-day;—on the contrary we hope that our appreciation of your abilities, and our anticipations of your success, will not be disappointed; and that the recognition of your capacity by others than ourselves, will fully bear out our estimation of you. It is thus that we trust to uphold and elevate the reputation of our University; to succeed in this, we know that our efforts contribute many, but not all, of the elements required—some, a great portion indeed, of which must be derived from the graduates